



FIFTY-SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1950.

GUERNSEY:

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REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1950.

Lukis House, Grange, Guernsey, 12th May, 1951.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my sixteenth annual report for the year 1950 as States Medical Officer of Health.

During the year there were eighty-six notified cases of scarletina, now a very mild disease, comparable in severity to tonsillitis, and there were thirteen cases of poliomyelitis.

The birth rate fell to 16.6 per 1,000, a figure comparable to the pre-war rate and the death rate was the lowest ever recorded.

There was a small increase in the infant mortality rate, which however remains at a very low level; again there was a considerable reduction in the deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, the death rate being 0.42 per 1,000, only a little more than half the rate for 1948.

No doubt the effects of the occupation are passing but the present overcrowding of many families must lead to much infection now and in the future.

Very good and necessary work has been carried out by the health visitors appointed in the previous year, although unfortunately Miss Davies became seriously ill in December.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROWAN REVELL, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

The President and Members,
Board of Health,
Guernsey.

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STATISTICS

TABLE I.

Sunshine.

Total for 1950	1778.5 hours
Average for 57 years	1885.4 "
Sunless days for 1950 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64.
Average ditto ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55.

Rainfall.

Total for 1950 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41.59 inches
Average for 108 years ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36.65 "
Average for 50 years ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36.54 "
Rain days for 1950 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	197.
Average ditto ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	186.

Temperature.

Daily Mean Temperature, 1950 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50.9°F.
Average for 108 years ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51.1°
Average for 50 years ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51.4°
Mean daily range, 1950 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8.3°
Average ditto ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.1°

TABLE II.

YEAR	Estimated population to middle of each year.	BIRTHS		DEATHS			DEATHS	
		Number	Rate per 1,000	Number	Crude Rate per 1,000	Adjusted Rate per 1,000	Under 1 year of age. Number	Rate per 1,000 Births.
1935 ..	41,160	777	18.9	518	12.6	8.8	46	59.2
1936 ..	41,950	708	16.9	545	12.9	9.0	42	59.3
1937 ..	42,410	827	19.5	575	13.6	9.5	45	53.2
1938 ..	43,015	851	19.8	524	12.2	8.5	37	43.4
1939 ..	43,820	744	16.9	559	12.7	8.9	33	44.3
1940—								
Jan.—June	43,000	400	18.6	334	14.0	—	21	52.5
July—Dec.	23,976	168	14.0	179	14.8	—	6	35.7
1941 ..	23,901	243	10.1	398	16.6	—	5	20.5
1942 ..	23,561	262	11.1	525	22.3	—	10	38.1
1943 ..	22,641	337	14.9	414	18.3	—	16	47.5
1944 ..	22,408	395	17.6	472	21.1	—	17	43.0
1945 ..	25,500	391	15.3	436	17.1	—	11	28.1
1946 ..	38,038	872	22.9	431	11.3	7.9	35	40.1
1947 ..	40,674	900	22.2	419	10.3	7.2	30	33.3
1948 ..	43,179	870	20.2	445	10.4	7.3	17	19.5
1949 ..	44,374	795	17.9	495	11.1	7.7	20	25.1
1950 ..	44,792	746	16.6	480	10.7	7.4	22	29.5

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POPULATION.

The Mid-year population was estimated at 44,792.

BIRTHS.

There were 746 live births, males 371, females 375, a rate of 16.6 per 1,000. Still-births numbered 15, a rate of 20.1 per 1,000 live births; illegitimate births were 55, a percentage of 7.0 of total live births.

DEATHS.

There were 480 deaths, males 235, females 245, a crude rate of 10.7 per 1,000; adjusted death rate 7.4.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There was one death from prolonged labour, a rate of 1.2 per 1,000 live births. Under the Ordinance "Ayant rapport aux Sages Femmes", medical aid was sought in 97 cases.

Fees to medical practitioners	£302 2s. 6d.
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INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 22 deaths under one year of age, giving a rate of 29.5 per 1,000 live births; 17 of these deaths were under one month, a rate of 22.6 per 1,000.

MARRIAGES.

There were 394 marriages, a rate of 9.4 per 1,000.

CANCER.

There were 62 deaths from Cancer, 34 males, 28 females, giving a rate of 1.4 per 1,000.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 23 deaths from Tuberculosis, 19 pulmonary and 4 non-pulmonary, giving rates of 0.51, 0.42 and 0.09 per 1,000 respectively. The attendances at the Chest Clinic were as follows:—

New cases of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	27
New cases not Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1
Attendances of old cases	...	...	...	...	263
X-rays taken	...	...	...	...	916

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were little notifiable infectious diseases during the year; notifications were as follows:—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	36
T.B. Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	1
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	81
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	—
Scabies	..	..	..	..	..	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	..	2
Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	1
Poliomyelitis	13

562 children were inoculated, 125 re-inoculated, against Diphtheria.

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The following cases were admitted to King Edward Sanatorium:—

						<i>Deaths.</i>
Bronchietasis	1	1
Chicken Pox	..	..	..	..	2	—
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	1	1
Eneephelitis Epidemic	..	..	..	..	1	1
Enteritis	..	..	..	..	1	—
Impetigo	..	..	..	..	1	—
Observation ? Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	1	—
Paratyphoid A	..	..	..	..	1	—
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	9	—
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	..	1	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	39	7
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	12	—
T.B. Meningitis	..	..	..	..	1	1
Tonsillitis	..	..	..	..	1	—
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	3	—
					<hr/> 75	<hr/> 11

SANITATION.

Extensive sanitary work has been carried out in the Island during the year. There is an urgent need for the provision of more sewers.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The States Water supply was generally satisfactory but here again extensions as soon as possible are necessary.

MILK SUPPLIES.

Very large numbers of samples have been taken and inspections made; the improvement in the cleanliness of the milk supplies has been maintained. When all the milk supplies are pasteurised, a large measure of safety against epidemics will have been procured.

HOUSING.

The extreme shortage of houses continues and, in spite of a large building programme, is likely to continue for many years. Difficulties in satisfying the need for houses are greatly increased by continually rising costs.

SELECTED GUERNSEY HEALTH STATISTICS.

	Infant Mortality. Rate per 1,000 live births.	Neonatal Deaths. Rate per 1,000 live births.	Still-Births. Rate per 1,000 live births.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Rate per 1,000
1937	53.2	—	37.8	0.74
1938	43.4	—	37.6	0.35
1939	44.3	—	43.2	0.62
1940	46.4	—	28.5	0.59
1941	20.5	—	20.8	1.0
1942	38.1	—	30.7	0.91
1943	47.5	—	15.1	0.90
1944	43.0	—	20.2	1.2
1945	28.1	—	23.0	0.47
1946	40.1	—	21.7	0.45
1947	33.3	—	18.9	0.54
1948	19.5	12.5	24.2	0.79
1949	25.1	17.6	23.9	0.61
1950	29.5	22.6	20.1	0.42

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INFANT WELFARE.

HEALTH VISITORS' REPORTS.

Primary or 1st Visits.	0—1 Year or Under 1 Year.	1—5 Years or Over 1 Year.	Ante-Natal Visits.	T.B. Visits.
229	871	286	14	7
Orthopaedic Visits.	Cleanliness, Neglect, etc.	Visits with Sanitary Inspector.	Visits with Housing Officer (Mr. Le Maitre).	
5	45	18		6

The total number of all visits for 1950 was 1,481 compared with 715 for nine months in 1949. The proportion of visits to children in the 0—5 years class is very convincing evidence of the need for re-visits and a large percentage are request visits. The social service side, too, is very important and visits with the Sanitary Inspectors, Housing Officer and those for neglect and dirty homes often produce extremely good results which are invariably for the common good. Up to the 21st December, 229 primary visits had been made from a total of 283 live births and my remarks in the 1949 Report that it would be possible to complete 90% primary and routine visits was a very fair estimate. I am extremely pleased to report that all classes of people have taken very kindly to a Health Visitor Service.

MARJORIE DAVIES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Primary or 1st Visits.	0—1 Year or Under 1 Year.	1—5 years or Over 1 Year	T.B. Visits.	Cleanliness, Housing or Neglect.
330	947	81	4	10
Visits with Sanitary Inspector.	Venereal Disease Visits.			
4	2			

I have very little to add to my report of 1949, except that I must emphasize that I am quite unable to visit all births in the country parishes. The statistics show for 1950 that 754 births were registered and out of this total 466 were born to parents in the out-lying parishes. As will be seen by the above table 136 were not visited at all.

It will be noticed that very few children from one to five years have been visited, this is unfortunate as many problems occur during these years. It is the duty of a Health Visitor to visit up to the age of 5 years but with such a large area to cover it is impossible. I am greatly concerned about this and feel that the mothers of Guernsey need this help and are most grateful for our assistance.

MONICA GRAHAM, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

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VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC 1950.

MALE FEMALE

(1) Number of persons who on 1st January, 1950, were under treatment or observation for :—							
Syphilis	37	14					
Gonorrhœa	14	—					
Non specific or non-venereal conditions	2	3					
(2) Number of persons previously removed from register who returned for treatment due to re-infection	—	—					
(3) Number of fresh infections during the year :—							
Syphilis contracted locally	2	1					
Syphilis contracted outside the island	2	—					
Syphilis congenital	—	—					
Gonorrhœa contracted locally	3	1					
Gonorrhœa contracted outside the island	—	—					
Non-specific or non-venereal conditions contracted locally	12	7					
Non-specific or non-venereal conditions contracted outside the island	4	—					
(4) Number of persons remaining under treatment or observation on 31st December, 1950 :—							
Syphilis	33	8					
Gonorrhœa	7	—					
Non-specific or non-venereal	10	5					
(5) Total attendances of all persons at Clinic during year	514	411					
(6) Number of cases admitted to Hospital during year :—							
Syphilis/Gonorrhœa	—	—					
(7) Number of lumbar punctures performed	5	—					
Number of blood tests	155	30					
(8) Number of injections given :—							
Penicillin	54	99					
Streptomycin	35	—					
Arsenic	47	29					
Bismuth	91	39					
Other treatment :—							
Sulphonamides	12	—					
Irrigations (Male section only)	28	—					
Prostatic massage (Male Section only)	33	—					
(9) Cases discharged during 1950 :—							
Syphilis	8	2					
Syphilis transferred to other Clinics	—	—					
Gonorrhœa	10	—					
Observation or non-specific	8	5					

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V.D. CLINIC—MALE SECTION.

It is gratifying to see that there has been a marked decline in the number of fresh cases treated at the male section during the year, especially of cases contracted in the Island. There is no reason to suppose that more cases than heretofore are being treated privately and so the inference must be drawn that there is less V.D. about in the Island. Attendances have been good and defaulters for treatment negligible. It is thought that nowadays more and more reliance will be placed on combinations of Penicillin and Bismuth for treatment of Syphilis, with arsenic being used little, if at all. Amongst the newer drugs streptomycin, chloramphenicol and aureomycin (when available) should be able to control previously intractable conditions such as some non-specific infections.

After alternative facilities had been used temporarily, the Board of Health Laboratory, Princess Elizabeth Hospital, is once more providing an ideal service for blood investigations.

J. E. T. STRICKLAND,
Medical Officer in Charge,
Male Section V.D. Clinic.

V.D. CLINIC—FEMALE SECTION.

This Clinic is kept busy as can be seen by the 411 attendances for diagnosis, serological tests and treatment during the past year.

The diagnosis and treatment of Syphilis still remains as I said in my last year's report the most important work of this Section.

Gonorrhea has almost disappeared and we only had one case sent to us in the last year.

The non-specific cases are increasing and we hope this Clinic will prove its usefulness in the treatment of these very difficult cases, especially those in which a strong suspicion of specific infection has been contracted from contacts which are under suspicion or have been recently infected.

W. R. CAMBRIDGE,
Medical Officer in Charge,
Female Section V.D. Clinic.

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DEATHS

CAUSE GROUPS.

MALE (*Continued*)

YEARS.

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	CAUSE GROUPS	INFANTILE MORTALITY						MONTHS					
		28 days to 2 months	2/3	3/4	4/5	5/6	6/7	7/8	8/9	9/10	11/12	Total	
A	104 Gastro-enteritis and colitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
A	129 All other congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	
A	131 Postnatal asphyxia and atelectasis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
A	135 Ill-defined diseases peculiar to early infancy and immaturity qualified	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
DAYS.													
Under 1 day		1/2	2/3	3/4	4/5	5/6	6/7	7/14	14/21	21/28	Total		
A	26 Tetanus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
A	97 All other respiratory diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
A	128 Congenital malformations of the circulatory system	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	
A	129 All other congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
A	131 Postnatal asphyxia and atelectasis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
A	135 Ill-defined diseases peculiar to early infancy and immaturity qualified	..	..	..	..	..	7	3	..	..	..	11	

LABORATORY SERVICE.

February 1951.

Board of Health Laboratory Service Annual Report for 1950.

1. Urethral, cervical and vaginal smears for Gonococci	51
2. Urethral, cervical and vaginal cultures for Gonococci	49
3. Sputum direct examination for T.B.	309
4. Sputum culture examination for T.B.	33
5. Sputum culture examination other organisms	12
6. Eye smears	5
7. Eye cultures	16
8. Urine routine examinations	117
9. Urine deposit examinations	203
10. Urine smears Bacteriology	15
11. Urine cultures	70
12. Urine Urea estimations	5
13. Urine Acetone derivatives and Ph.	14
14. Urine Indican test—Tests for Bile and Blood	7
15. Blood Cultures	30
16. Blood Grouping	87
17. Blood White Cell Count	247
18. Blood Red Cell Count	304
19. Blood Hæmoglobin	415
20. Blood Van den Berg test	1
21. Blood Differential Count	251
22. Blood Sedimentation Rate	268
23. Blood for Anthrax	6
24. Blood for C. Welchii—Prothrombin Time	3
25. Blood Sugar estimations	119
26. Blood Urea estimations	58
27. Blood Cell Volume	140
28. Blood M.C.H.C.	53
29. Blood M.C.V.	49
30. Blood Widals	23
31. Blood other Agglutinations	30
32. Blood for Parasites	8
33. Blood Icterus Index	2
34. Blood Fragility	2
35. Blood Paul Bunnell Reaction	16
36. Coagulation Time	22
37. Bleeding Time	6
38. Platelet Count	1
39. Reticulocyte Count	10
40. Hanger Test	10
41. Kahn Standard Test.—Rhesus Typing	47
42. Kahn Dye Test	159
43. Wasserman Reaction	182
44. Gonococcal Fixation Test..	17
45. Throat Smears for K.L.B.	4
46. Throat Cultures for K.L.B.	120
47. Semen Fertility Tests	11
48. Stool Occult Blood	50
49. Stool Direct Smears	21
50. Stool Cultures	67
51. Fractional Gastric Analysis	15

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		B/fwd	3760
52.	Skin examinations for Fungi	..	1
53.	Coagulase Tests	..	12
54.	Pus Direct Smears	..	10
55.	Pus Cultures	..	26
56.	Cerebro-spinal Fluid. Cell Count	..	32
57.	" " "	Direct Smear	5
58.	" " "	Chloride estimation	22
59.	" " "	Globulin	12
60.	" " "	Sugar estimation	21
61.	" " "	Culture	5
62.	" " "	Wasserman Reaction	2
63.	" " "	Total Protein	10
64.	" " "	T.B. Direct	4
65.	Pleural and other Body Fluids Culture	..	24
66.	" " " Direct Smears	..	18
67.	" " " Cell Count	..	1
68.	Veterinary Investigations—Streptococci Grouping	..	18
69.	Ear, Nose and Throat Smears	..	3
70.	" " " Cultures	..	40
71.	Urea Concentration Test Complete	..	2
72.	Autogenous Vaccine	..	1
73.	Milk Tests "Hotis" for Mastitis. Suspicious	..	4
74.	" " " Positive	..	130
75.	" " " Negative	..	129
76.	" " " Doubtful	..	35
77.	Phosphatase Tests	..	20
78.	Milk Vessel Rinsings	..	85
79.	Milk for T.B.	..	7
80.	Milk Culture Smears	..	100
81.	Chemical Fat	..	578
82.	Cultures	..	16
83.	Milk Reductase. Unsatisfactory	..	38
84.	" " Satisfactory	..	79
85.	" " Good	..	615
86.	Ice Cream Grading. Unsatisfactory	..	21
87.	" " Suspicious	..	30
88.	" " Good	..	204
89.	Water Samples. B. Coli Presumptive Suspicious	..	35
90.	" " " Unsatisfactory	..	77
91.	" " " Good	..	626
92.	" " " Chlorine Tests	..	24
93.	" " " Conclusive	..	94
94.	Medico-Legal Tests	..	3
95.	Antibiotic Sensitivity Tests	..	50
96.	Foods	..	10
97.	Organism Agglutinations	..	70
		Total	7,109

Good progress has been made in bacteriological techniques and our standard has now been raised to a satisfactory level. Anti-biotic sensitivity tests, streptococcal grouping and a comprehensive routine for isolation and identification of *Salmonella-Shiga* pathogens are now firmly established procedures. A few cases of intestinal disorders were referred to us for faecal examination, including gastro-enteritis, colitis and diarrhoea. *Salmonella enteritidis* bacilli were isolated from two cases (food poisoning) and members of the "Paracolon" group of bacilli were found in others. In one case of severe chronic colitis paracolon organisms comprised more than fifty per cent. of the total faecal bacterial flora. Although the pathogenicity of this particular strain is not known, following three days treatment with chloromycetin capsules by mouth, the faecal bacterial flora rapidly returned to one of typical *B. Coli* and a marked improvement in the patient's condition was reported. Unfortunately the improvement has not been sustained, and blood and mucus have re-appeared in this patient's stools. Together with paracolon bacilli isolated from the local water supplies 24 strains are being kept for further investigation. A comment on these interesting observations has been published as a special article in "The Medical Officer", 20th January, 1951, No. 2217, by permission of the Medical Officer of Health, Guernsey. By arrangement with Dr. Mourant of the Blood Group Reference Laboratory, London, a supply of dried blood agglutinating sera has been arranged, and the laboratory now does blood grouping, Rhesus typing and antibody detection tests. Only in rare cases requiring specialised antibody typing will it be necessary to refer to the Blood Group Reference Laboratory. A routine ante-natal blood examination, comprising the blood group, Rhesus type, cell volume, haemoglobin and Wassermann reaction has recently been introduced and the demand for this composite test is increasing. The blood transfusion arrangements have been very successful this year and emergency calls for local blood donors extremely few.

Several interesting blood diseases have been reported apart from the more usual simple types of anaemia, and the junior laboratory staff are now trained to recognise many abnormalities when present in the peripheral blood. Examination of the sternal bone marrow, pre-treatment, could perhaps be done more often, especially in macrocytic types of anaemia, suspected aleukaemic leukaemias, and the relatively rare conditions such as myelomatosis and lipoidosis. During the second half of the year a number of cerebro-spinal fluids were found to contain excess lymphocytes (total peak counts 200-800 per cmm), slight increases in total protein and globulin values, sugar and chloride levels normal or only slightly lowered, with negative bacteriological findings. The available clinical information indicated meningeal virus infections. Routine tests for virus differentiation of poliomyelitis, lymphocytic choriomeningitis and encephalitis are, however, not yet fully established.

WATER ANALYSIS.

In addition to the routine presumptive *B. Coli* test, all piped chlorinated supplies showing positive results are now submitted to a conclusive test. Also, a number of mains water samples showing traces or no evidence of residual chlorine and a negative presumptive *B. Coli* test were cultured for the presence of paracolon bacilli. Twenty per cent. were found to contain variants of this group of bacilli.

MILK AND ICE CREAM.

The results of bacteriological and chemical analysis of the local milk and ice cream supplies are comparable to the 1949 findings. The proposal to adopt a platform milk rejection test at the States Dairy, first discussed in the latter part of 1949, with a practical, economic scheme devised early in 1950 should be of considerable importance in screening the pasteurisation plant from milks with high bacterial counts. The bulk mixing of milk previous to pasteurisation should establish a reliable base line for

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fat, non-fatty solids and specific gravity ratios and be of value when interpreting results obtained from retail milk samples submitted to this laboratory for evidence of water adulteration or skimming. If the pasteurised milk was hermetically sealed in containers on leaving the plant this laboratory would be relieved of more than 600 routine chemical retail adulteration sample checks a year, quite apart from bacteriological check testing. The Sanitary Inspector's time in collecting these samples could be diverted to more detailed investigation of hygienic conditions at the farms. A special bacteriological technique formulated in this laboratory for the rapid identification of dangerous germ laden milking utensils and churns would then be available to materially assist and guide the inspector in his judgment and action. It must also be remembered that whilst it is true that a properly conducted pasteurisation treatment should destroy all pathogenic organisms that may be present in the milk, the keeping quality may be adversely affected by raw milk containing excessive numbers of heat resistant (thermoduric) bacteria. During the year a number of official phosphatase tests were made on the pasteurised milk prepared at the present States Dairy premises and the results have indicated that the heat treatment has been correct and satisfactory.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The total number of examinations for 1947 was 2,313, 1948—4,009, 1949—6,566 and for this year 7,109. Our technical methods have also increased. The detailed itemised report is a clear analysis of our year's work. I wish to draw special attention to the fact that of the total number of specimens received during the year it was necessary to refer less than 5% to mainland laboratories, a highly satisfactory performance with our present staff and facilities. Although the staff has been increased, a technician commencing his duties in January, laboratory accommodation has not altered since the commencement of the service four years ago. If it is intended that we continue to adopt additional technical methods and maintain the present standard, the results of hard, conscientious work, some alleviation from our unhealthy, cramped working conditions is an urgent necessity. The laboratory consists of one sub-basement store, wash-up, sterilising and preparation room; one room 15ft. by 7ft. 6ins. containing refrigerator, water baths, incubator, sterile cabinet, clerk's desk and record filing shelves; and the main laboratory, in which most of the laboratory tests are made is 15ft. square with less than 4ft. available working bench space for each technician. Consultations of a confidential nature with doctors and out-patients are sometimes embarrassing under these conditions. The health of the staff is also of paramount importance and the risk of laboratory borne infections unnecessarily high and an onerous responsibility. One reasonable sized room would ease many of the present problems pending the time when a self-contained properly fitted laboratory unit becomes a possibility. When comparing our situating with others it must be remembered that not only is this the only medical laboratory for the Island but also supports and investigates all Public Health and Veterinary matters requiring official laboratory reports. The position was reported in the 1949 Annual Report. Today it is very unsatisfactory, retarding progress and beginning to menace our efficiency.

Economies effected in general maintenance include a considerable saving on cotton wool by the introduction of metal test tube caps and the use of a commercial peptone for routine water analysis. I would emphasize that the value of our reports are often dependent on accurate clinical information being given before specimens are examined, and not as sometimes occurs, after the specimen has been examined and destroyed. The year has been one of interest and the liaison between the laboratory and the Island doctors and Health Department staff one of pleasant co-operation and mutual benefit.

H. A. WILSON,
Technician in Charge.

REPORT ON THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE ISLAND
DURING 1950.

By G. AUSTIN, Chief Sanitary Inspector.

GENERAL.

I herewith submit my report on the sanitary circumstances of the island for the year 1950. A steady improvement has been made both in sanitation and house repairs, and in cafés. The addition of an Assistant Inspector in 1949 has allowed the Food Inspector to work almost uninterruptedly on foods. Due to the large number of small farms on the island a considerable amount of time must be spent checking milk supplies. As in former years a large number have been examined both for fat content and cleanliness. Water supplies, too, have been the subject of frequent and numerous examinations and details of the qualities of these will be found in the Laboratory Technician's report.

Visits have been made to Alderney in connection with Public Health inspections in general and to Herm in connection with water supplies and sanitary arrangements. These latter have improved since my last report but the water supply is still not satisfactory owing chiefly to lack of sufficient storage or satisfactory treatment.

Overcrowding in this island is still very marked in spite of continued building both by the Housing Authority and private enterprise. Lack of piped water supplies in some areas presents a great difficulty where new houses are being built, and also in some of the less thickly populated areas where wells have been proved to be badly polluted.

During the year a number of elderly people have been found to be living in filthy and verminous conditions. From one house alone fourteen persons were removed to the Town Hospital and the Children's Home respectively so that effective anti-vermin treatment could be applied to the house. All these persons were, prior to being admitted to Hospital, bathed at the Board of Health Clinic as no cleansing station is available for cases such as these. Under existing laws it is most difficult, except they be found verminous, to compel persons to be removed, even temporarily, to any institution. Two old people were found in a state of semi-collapse and illness and could be removed only because they were proved to be verminous. Should the Vermin Law (1948) not apply to any similar cases, it would be almost impossible to induce these persons to be detained in an institution.

Meat inspections have been continued and with notably few exceptions the consignments have arrived in good condition. Whilst on the mainland in September of this year I was given the opportunity of seeing Australian meat unloaded at the Royal Docks, London, and, except for the fact that carcases are loaded into refrigerator vans or waggons there is no difference in the method employed there or at the Guernsey quay.

Visits to adjacent islands have again been made and details of these are given under a separate heading.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Laboratory Staff, Health Visitors and Inspectors for the co-operation during the year.

HOUSING, DRAINAGE AND WATER INSPECTIONS

Requests from Housing Authority for general inspections including overcrowding	190
Requests from other sources for overcrowding	252
Routine housing inspections	134
Re-inspections in connection with work in progress or completed	217
Inspections re water supplies only	195
Sanitary defects and drainage	257
Complaints investigated and abated	158
Public buildings and schools inspected	36
Drains tested	68
Work places and shops including commercial tomato packing stations	85
Interviews and appointments	829
Verbal agreements made and work carried out	52

F FARMS AND MILK.

These inspections have again reached a very considerable number and I am pleased to report that both a.m. and p.m. milks have been slightly better than during 1949 although the same remarks apply, viz.: that samples taken by this department are from only a section of the island cattle and not, as in the case of the States Dairy, from all cattle. Another very satisfactory feature is that whereas in 1949 the percentage of dirty milk was 13%, the 1950 figure was 3%, which speaks very highly indeed for the diligence exercised by the Food Inspector and the co-operation existing between him and the laboratory.

Two prosecutions were taken during the year, one under the "Clean Milk Ordinance, 1945", in which a farmer was fined £15 and costs for selling milk from dirty churns. The other, a case of adulteration in which the farmer was fined £20 and costs for selling milk with added water. The number of farm inspections has increased from 20 to 235 and retailers' premises and utensils from 410 to 541. By a coincidence the number of cases of proved mastitis was 27, the same number as in 1949.

SAMPLES ANALYSED DURING 1950

Formal samples ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Informal samples ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	541
Fat and M.B. Test ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	537
M.B. Test only ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	180
Appeal to cow samples ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	199

FARMS AND MILK

MONTHLY AVERAGE OF FAT AND NON-FATTY SOLIDS.

Month	Fat		Non-fatty solids	
	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
January ..	4.1%	5.4%	9.13%	9.24%
February ..	4.0%	5.1%	9.20%	9.00%
March ..	3.97%	5.09%	9.05%	9.16%
April ..	3.47%	5.29%	8.96%	9.30%
May ..	3.97%	5.3%	9.20%	9.35%
June ..	4.07%	5.19%	9.06%	9.24%
July ..	4.2%	5.7%	9.09%	9.14%
August ..	3.4%	—	8.97%	—
September ..	4.2%	5.3%	9.14%	9.34%
October ..	4.13%	5.4%	8.98%	9.13%
November ..	4.3%	5.6%	9.30%	9.16%
December ..	4.2%	5.4%	9.18%	9.27%
Average Fat Content for the year ..	..	..	A.M. ..	4.0%
Average Non-fatty-solids for the year ..	..	..	A.M. ..	9.07%
Average Fat Content for the year ..	..	..	P.M. ..	5.38%
Average Non-fatty-solids for the year ..	..	..	P.M. ..	9.21%
Percentage of unsatisfactory milk i.e. decolourised in 3 hours or under				3.7%

ENGLISH MILK

Fifty-one samples :—

Average Fat Content ..	..	..	..	..	3.7%
Average non-fatty-solids ..	..	..	..	..	8.89%

FOODS OTHER THAN MILK.

As I remarked in my 1949 report a set of Model Bye-Laws would be greatly appreciated as the present local legislation is not sufficiently comprehensive. It was hoped that these would be drafted and become effective during this year so as to strengthen our efforts in the "Clean Food" campaign but unfortunately our hopes have not materialized. Nevertheless every effort has been made to ensure that cafés, restaurants, boarding houses and hotels should take proper precautions in the preparation and storing of foods and in this connection at least three visits have been made to the above mentioned establishments, except hotels and boarding houses, which have each been visited once for the purpose of providing and fixing warning notices in kitchens and toilets, these notices being provided free by the British Tourist and Holiday Board.

A "Clean Food" film shown at the Odeon Cinema during the summer was much appreciated by local caterers and clearly showed the dangers of careless food handling. Condemned food has, as in 1949, been dumped at sea. Inspections are given in the following table.

Inspections of food for condemnation ..	..	..	..	141
Inspections of food premises (including proposed premises) ..	..	..	..	41
Inspections of bakehouses ..	..	..	..	36
Inspections of fried fish and chip shops ..	..	..	..	82
Inspections of cafés and restaurants ..	..	..	..	361
Inspections of markets ..	..	..	..	43

In addition the number of hotels and boarding houses inspected under the "Clean Food Campaign" was 289.

APPENDIX

Food examined and condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

Almond Substitute 12 packets	Lard 13 packets
Animal Food 23 lbs.	Meat tinned 666 tins
Bacon 200½ lbs	Meat loose 30¾ lbs.
Baked Beans 40 tins	Margarine 13 packets, 22½ lbs.
Butter 28 lbs.	Marmalade 6 tins
Broth 1 tin	Marmite 5 jars
Cake 14 packets mixture	Meat Pies 44
Cake 1 only	Macaroni 22 tins
Cheese 41 boxes	Marzipan 10 cases
Cheese 105½ lbs.	Milk 555 tins
Chicory 11 lbs.	Mushrooms 5 tins
Chicken 23½ lbs.	Mustard 3 tins
Choc Ices 100 dozen	Nuts 35 packets
Chocolate Spread 627 cartons	Onions 14 jars
Coffee 4 tins	Ovaltine 1 tin
Curry Powder 8 tins	Pastes 59 tins, 141 bottles
Dried Fruit 50 lbs	Pastry 5 packets
Eggs 3 dozen	Pickles 53 doz 19 tins, 21 jars
Flour 79 lbs.	Puddings 222 doz 22 pkts, 10 tins
Fish 162 tins	Rabbits 60 lbs.
Fruit 39 boxes	Spaghetti 3 tins
Fruit 1,553 tins	Salad Cream 25 dozen 50 bottles
Golden Syrup 11 tins	Soup 107 tins
Ice Crcam 10 gallons loose	Sweets 13 bottles
Ice Cream 1½ qtrs, 100 dozen	Tea 6 lbs.
Jam 53 tins	Turkish Delight 40 squares
Juice 27 tins	Vegetables 1,314 tins
Ketchup 2 bottles	

FOOD ANALYSED 1950

Air for Gases	1	Margarine	1
Baking Powder	1	Meat	6
Chocolates	1	Pasteurised Milk	8
Cream	4	Pepper	1
Fruit Drinks	3	Pickled Onions	1
Ice Cream	21	Tea	1
Jam	3	Water	6

ICE CREAM.

Two hundred and sixty-eight visits were made during the year to manufacturers and 254 samples taken. Of these sixty-seven were imported ice cream and the gradings and percentages are as follows:—

LOCAL

Grade 1	73	Percentage	39%
Grade 2	77	Percentage	41%
Grade 3	23	Percentage	12%
Grade 4	14	Percentage	7%

IMPORTED

Grade 1	29	Percentage	43%
Grade 2	24	Percentage	36%
Grade 3	7	Percentage	10%
Grade 4	7	Percentage	10%

Total number of samples	254
Of which the number of imported samples was	67
Number of samples taken for fat and sugar content only	21

APPENDIX

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ICE CREAM SAMPLES

No.	Manufacturers and Retailers				Retailers only							
	Grades				Grades							
	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4			
1	3	15	4	4	—	—	—	—	—			
2	4	5	1	2	—	—	—	—	—			
3	15	15	4	2	9	11	4	1	—			
4	4	5	3	1	—	—	—	—	—			
5	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
6	1	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—			
7	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
8	3	4	4	1	9	11	4	1	—			
9	16	12	1	2								
10	4	5	1	—	(Imported)	3	2	1	4			
11	—	—	—	—	(Imported)	11	12	3	3			
12	—	—	—	—	(Imported)	8	6	2	—			
13	—	—	—	—	(Imported)	7	4	1	—			
	64	66	19	13	—	162	38	11	8	—	92	
	39%	41%	11%	8%			41%	38%	12%	9%		
	<i>Local Samples</i>				<i>Imported Samples</i>							
	73	77	23	14	—	187	29	24	7	7	—	67
	39%	41%	12%	7%			43%	36%	10%	10%		

WATER SUPPLY.

Fortunately, due to an adequate rainfall, there was no restriction of water from the Water Board supply. A long awaited main extension has been made in the Baubigny district and also at Courtil Ronchin, St. Andrew's.

Number of samples taken from public and private sources are :—

Weekly routine samples from States Water Main .. ..	..	585
Samples taken from private wells .. .. ..	..	64
Samples taken from Public Pumps and Fountains .. ..	..	27
Samples taken from Schools .. .. ..	..	28
Samples taken from Scout camp sites .. .. ..	..	4
Samples taken from Island of Brechou .. .. ..	..	4

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

During the winter the Vazon tip has been used and a fairly large area has been covered. Owing to the wet weather in the fall of the year approach to this tip has been difficult and the refuse lorries have occasionally been stuck.

The Catelin Quarry has been used throughout the summer and has been quite satisfactory and should serve its useful purpose for a considerable time.

Inspections made at official dumps numbered ... ..	...	27
and to householders re unhygienic bins ... ..	...	21

During the year an Ordinance called "The Refuse Disposal Ordinance" was made and came into operation on 1st September. The gist of this legislation is briefly that all refuse placed out for collection must be placed in suitable covered metal containers.

APPENDIX

RAT DESTRUCTION, 1950.

This work has been carried on in a similar manner to former years and no serious infestations have been reported. From mid November to the end of the year an increased number of infestations were reported which were probably due to the very heavy rainfall driving rats from ditches to higher levels. The refuse tip at Le Catelin quarry has been inspected and baited regularly and the operator's dog has also done very good work at this and other places. All other known tips have been baited regularly and a number of banks gassed on private properties.

Statistics on the year's work are given in the following table:—

Number of properties visited during 1950	2,851
Number of visits made during 1950	3,665
Number of new infestations during 1950	151
Number of properties cleared during 1950	190

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Inspections made for all forms of Infectious Diseases were one hundred and five and rooms disinfected totalled two hundred and four. Over three thousand articles were stoved. Eight disinfections were done for the Princess Elizabeth Hospital, five for the Town Hospital, one for the Maternity Hospital and one at H.M.'s Prison.

Mileage for the year for the King Edward Sanatorium van was 12,194 miles. One case of Fowl Pest and two cases of Anthrax were reported and appropriate measures taken.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

The number of premises treated for vermin was 59.

ALDERNEY.

Several visits have been made during the year and inspections made of houses, cafés, and farms. A considerable improvement has been made in sanitation and under the Ministry of Works assistance scheme houses have been repaired and in many cases complete new sanitary services installed. Cafés and farms are generally well kept but owing to the peculiar design of some of the café premises it is difficult to provide additional toilets for both sexes. Inspections made were as follows:—

Houses 23; Cafés 12; Farms 46.

ALDERNEY MILK SAMPLES

Number of samples taken for Fat and Methylene Blue Test	43
Number of samples taken for Methylene Blue Test only	20
Average Fat Content A.M.	4.4%
Average Non-fatty Solids A.M.	9.22%
Average Fat Content P.M.	5.05%
Average Non-fatty Solids P.M.	9.36%

I must again remark on the very efficient manner in which the Alderney Dairy has been conducted during the year under the management of Mr. Renier.

THE AIRFIELD

No progress has been made with regard to the water supply and provision of an adequate sewage collecting system.

HERM.

Considerable improvements have been made to the public conveniences and as no water shortage occurred during the year a full supply to all toilets was maintained. These conveniences were kept in a much better condition than in 1949.

Number of visits made during 1950	7
Number of water samples taken during 1950	27

